



The Montgomery County RECYCLETTER

January/February 2002

Number 61

Block Captains The Time Has Come, the Time is Now!

The time has come for the Master Recycler/Composter Volunteers to become Block Captains and approach their neighbors with information about recycling. This is where we can really make a difference. We are not asking for you to do the recycling for your neighbors, just to be their personal hotline representative, always available to clear up confusion and be sort of a go-between the citizens and the service.

This year let's reach out to our immediate communities. It's a big county, filled with hundreds of thousands of people. The more volunteers we have, the more we can accomplish. To be realistic, we cannot expect to reach everyone. But think how much good a Block Captain in a high-rise apartment building could be! At fairs and festivals, it is primarily residents who are already recycling well and who just need a few questions answered that visit us. However, we really need to reach people who don't recycle or who need to improve their efforts. We need to

make sure that our neighbors have blue bins and up-to-date information. Some of our volunteers have been doing this on their own for years.

A volunteers' meeting will teach everyone what we need to do to make this project a success. Canvassing your chosen area will be at your convenience. We anticipate that once we have started, there will be no finishing date until the county is way beyond the 50-percent goal. We need everyone who has ever volunteered with us to help. We need our active volunteers to continue to be active and participate. We also need new volunteers to take on this important task and show us what they can do. Most county citizens respond positively to recycling representatives coming to their door. You won't be there soliciting contributions or trying to sell them anything. When people know you are their neighbor and not the community busybody and when they know that you are a volunteer doing outreach and not a recy-

cling authority coming to hassle them, you will find most Montgomery County residents receptive and grateful for your effort.

"50 percent" is within sight. Let's reach it and then go beyond it! Become a Block Captain for your neighborhood. No area is too small, and no effort is too great.

A meeting for potential Block Captains is planned for February 27, (call 301-840-2854 if weather is questionable, inclement weather date will be March 6) from 7 to 9 p.m. at the Transfer Station in Derwood. Refreshments will be served, and all pertinent literature provided. Please RSVP if you intend to come. If you are interested but cannot make the meeting, you are still encouraged to participate in the program. Just let us know, and we will arrange to meet with you at another time.

Call the Master Recycler/Composter Volunteer Program at 301-840-2852, or e-mail us at volunteers@MCRcycles.org (our new e-mail address).

Behind the Scenes - Spring 2002

The next session of the Division's "Behind the Scenes" course will be offered this Spring, on Thursday evenings beginning February 21, 2002. Evolved from our training program for new volunteers, Behind the Scenes is now open not only to prospective and new volunteers, but also anyone in the community interested in learning more about solid waste management and recycling in Montgomery County.

The course includes six evening sessions, in which we examine topics ranging from the Division's various facilities, code enforcement, and "Trucks 101" to recycling "do's and don'ts" and outreach to apartments, condominiums, and businesses. A Saturday field trip to the Resource Recovery and Composting Facilities in Dickerson, with lunch at the Gothic Dairy Barn, is always a course highlight.

Inside This Issue...

New e-mail address.....	2
Letters about worms.....	3
HHW-Mercury	4
Washington's compost barn.....	6
Calendar of Events.....	8

(Continued on page 5)

News Brief



Help Wanted

The Master Recycler/Composter Volunteer Program is looking for an Assistant Manager. This position is available immediately. Candidates need be very flexible with their time, able to work an occasional evening when necessary, and a Saturday or Sunday three out of four weekends a month. This is a full time position, but can be part time provided Tuesdays and Thursdays and a weekend day are covered. Availability in mid-August for the Montgomery County Agricultural Fair is essential. Knowledge of recycling issues is desirable but enthusiasm and interest can substitute for experience. For more information and/or an interview, contact Jim Welch or Claire Agoglia at 301-840-2852 or e-mail us at Volunteers@MCRecycles.org.



New e-mail address

Our new, and hopefully permanent e-mail address is now [<volunteers@MCRecycles.org>](mailto:volunteers@MCRecycles.org).

We have had to change the address twice in the past few months and apologize for any inconvenience caused by that change.



Reuse Opportunity

Reuse is a very important part of the recycling loop. One of the best outlets for reusable products is flea markets and yard sales. But because our county so efficiently picks up refuse, some folks just throw unwanted items into the trash. Even big items can be transported to the Transfer Station in a car or a van and thrown away at no cost. But could someone else use that old table, fix that nonworking lawn mower, or build something with previously used lumber? A sign that says "FREE" and that is placed on an item at curbside attracts lots of attention. Chances are that someone will take it away for you and reuse it.

We hope that this can become a permanent feature of the Recycleletter—a service for our readers who have and those who want items others might throw away. Please deal with items of interest with the contacts listed and independently of our office. And please, let's not complicate it all with money. As the saying goes, "One man's trash is another man's treasure."

These two listings are for items **wanted**:

—Plywood

A 2-foot-square (or larger) piece is wanted by Bob Mabie of Olney. These become backings for targets at the Isaac Walton League's shooting range. Please no nails. Contact Bob at 301-774-4122 or RFMMEM@aol.com

—Bricks

Clean single bricks are wanted by Jim Welch of Rockville. Some mortar crusts are OK. These are to be used for garden paths. Contact Jim at 301-924-1439 or JKJWELCHES@Yahoo.com



Quote

"The trash and litter of nature disappears into the ground with the passing of each year, but man's litter has more permanence." John Steinbeck

Mission Statement

The Montgomery County Master Recycler/Composter Volunteer Program, a part of the Department of Public Works and Transportation, Division of Solid Waste Services, encourages environmental stewardship through its public outreach on waste prevention, reuse and recycling. Volunteers provide County residents with practical solutions to their waste-related concerns. In educating themselves and others, MR/C volunteers stimulate thoughtful and effective action towards sound environmental practices which protect our shared environment and help the County achieve its goal of 50% recycling.

Jim Welch,
Editor-in-Chief

Diane Reinke,
Editor

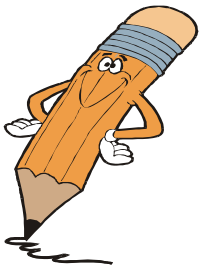
Mickey O'Bradovich,
Layout

Published by the Master Recycler/Composter Volunteer Program, Montgomery County Government, Department of Public Works and Transportation, Division of Solid Waste Services.

Program Office: 301-840-2852
Office Fax: 301-840-2855



A Note to You



There was a public service commercial on television in the 1960's that made quite an impression on me when I was a boy. It starred a Native American, Iron Eyes Cody, viewing the pollution and litter that plagued our country at the time. The message was subtle, but the tear rolling down this man's cheek said more than a thousand words. Litter was and is an unnecessary affront to the beauty of our land. Sure, the '60's were a new decade, and we were highly influenced by the advent of disposable plastics, but disposability was never supposed to mean littering.

There's not a single day when someone in a car driving by my house doesn't throw a beer bottle or a fast food package onto our lawn. Yes, it's a busy street with lots of traffic, and yes, it's not everyone who drives by that litters.

But the thought behind such behavior is the same old "out of sight, out of mind" attitude that confounds our efforts to reach Montgomery County's goal of recycling 50 percent of our refuse.

Anti-littering laws are on the books, but have you ever heard of anyone, anywhere, receiving a penalty for littering? Do people think "Fine for Littering" means that it is okay (fine) to litter? Littering is the behavior of people who don't care what trash they leave in their wake because they've moved down the road beyond it.

I really don't care to handle the waste created by others, but when I see a recyclable bottle in the trash or on my lawn, I pick it up and recycle it. When I see trash in a recycling bin, I remove it. This totally embarrasses my teenage son, but I just can't help myself.

Everyone who makes trash is responsible for its proper disposal. And every citizen in Montgomery County needs to know that we do not have a landfill anymore. Burying recyclables was a shame, but before there was a market for them, there was little choice. Now we incinerate our trash at the Resource Recovery Facility. Trash is burned, electricity is produced, metal is removed from the ash for recycling, and even the ash is recycled. But to unnecessarily burn recyclable items is shamefully wasteful. We all must take responsibility for reducing the amount of trash we generate. We need to know and care about where our trash goes and what is done with it. There is no place in our crowded society for that "out of sight, out of mind" mentality.

Most people manage to bag their trash, place the bags in cans, and have the trash brought to the Transfer Station instead of throwing it in a gully or burying it in the back yard. Currently an effort is being made to advise residents that plastic bags need to be placed in cans to keep birds, dogs, and rodents from tearing them open and creating litter. We all must take responsibility, and when you think about it, you'll see that recycling and waste reduction are two of the easiest ways in which we can all help our environment without going to extremes.

These days, a different perspective is required. Glass bottles and jars, aluminum cans, pie pans, foil, baking pans, plastic bottles, and steel cans are not trash, but mineral resources for remanufacturing. The same is true for paper and cardboard. When I see an empty aluminum can, I perceive it as a little less bauxite, a little less coal, etc., needing to be mined. When I recycle paper, I perceive it as another tree left standing. We all need to recycle as much as we can. And no more excuses. It doesn't take much more time, people do have the room to store items, and even a single person creates enough recyclable waste to make recycling worthwhile.

Here's a New Year's resolution for all our Master Recyclers and anyone else who reads this newsletter. Find a friend or a neighbor who doesn't recycle and let the person know how easy it is, how important it is, and how inexcusable it is not to. Use a diplomatic "catch more flies with honey" approach. Better yet, join in our upcoming Block Captain program and reach out to more than a few neighbors. Ours is a unique program where average citizens share in the workload of educating the public about recycling. Volunteers have made and will continue to make a difference. It's a new year now, and we are trying a new approach to public outreach. The time for our Block Captain program has arrived. Won't you join us?

Excerpts from Letters from Students at Piney Branch Elementary School - About Worms!

"Do you remember me? I'm the person who told you that my turtle murtle ate worms."

"It sound pretty intresting but kind of gross."

"Do you know what color worms are in China."

"I didn't know that there is a 6 foot long worm! That's freaky! Also I did not know that worms have 5 hearts and are both boys and girls! That's freaky too!"

"Rember when you said that the worm popo dose'nt smell well it dose."

"Are you going to come again? I hope you are! Do you put all your old newspapers in that black box? What's your work, I bet you're a scientist. How many bins of worms do you have? I think you have at least a few more."

"No way there is a 6 foot long worm."

Household Hazardous Waste - Mercury

Mercury— we know it as the name of the Roman messenger of the gods, but he was also the god of commerce, manual skill, eloquence, cleverness, travel, and thievery. Swift and slick are his character traits. “Quicksilver” is his nickname. We also know Mercury as the smallest of the planets in our solar system, closest to the sun. But the chemical mercury has long been recognized as a deadly poison. Even today, although we try to avoid mercury exposure to humans, we allow it to accumulate in nature and affect the natural world we rely on for clean water and air, healthful recreation, and fruitful populations of wild creatures.

Alice in Wonderland author Lewis Carroll knew that the chemical we abbreviate as “Hg” and call “mercury” is a toxic substance with dangerous health consequences. Mercury caused “Mad Hatter’s Disease” when mercury was used in the felting process that created hats from non-woven fibers.

Mercury is a neurotoxin. At high doses, mercury exposure can cause tremors, inability to walk, convulsions, and even death. In the United States, documented mercury exposure effects include more subtle, yet still serious, damage to the senses and brain. Developing fetuses, as well as the elderly and the infirm, are most susceptible to nerve damage from mercury.

Mercury is a silver-white metallic element familiar to almost everyone who ever used a fever thermometer. How many of us unknowingly risked exposure as children when we broke a thermometer and played with the fascinating, quick-moving silver fluid? However, our exposure to mercury is not limited to broken thermometers.

These days, mercury is found in shellfish and finfish in our oceans, rivers, lakes, and even our own Chesapeake Bay in quantities that elicit concerned warnings to considerably limit consumption. Is this not a reason for our concern? These fish have to contend with man-made acid rain, accumulation of suffocating silt from erosion due to lumbering and mining, introduced predatory species, global warming, flood control and hydroelectric dams, and mercury poisoning too! The mercury from just one thermometer can contaminate the fish in a 20-acre lake! Mercury bioaccumulates, that

is, it rises through the food chain and concentrates its poisonous effects on creatures at the top of the chain. That includes humans; bears and other land mammals; sharks; swordfish; and fowl, including America’s symbol, the bald eagle.

Humans can generally protect themselves, but who is protecting the wildlife? We all need to, through our efforts as consumers and our responsibilities as citizens. We need to insist that our legislators strengthen and not weaken Federal Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) standards for Hg emissions. In 2001, Maryland joined a handful of other progressive states to ban the sale of mercury thermometers. You won’t find them in any store in our state. But fluorescent light bulbs contain mercury too. So do old household thermostats, many of which are still working in area houses. When these are replaced, they need to be taken to a Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) collection so that the mercury can be captured, reused if possible, and disposed of responsibly if necessary.

Now, it is legal to dispose of a fluorescent light bulb in the regular trash. Since they are very breakable, it is desirable that they be wrapped in paper to facilitate handling. Our Resource Recovery Facility can accept and handle a certain amount of products containing mercury. The emissions from the smokestacks are scrubbed and cleaned of mercury, but the EPA limits the amount allowed to enter the plant. Residents may unknowingly throw away items containing mercury in the trash, and it is good to know our facility can handle them. But when you know what is in that thermostat, thermometer, etc., the responsible thing to do is to take those items to an HHW collection, where proper attention can be given to them. Quantities of lights and other products containing mercury should be saved for HHW collections.

The single biggest source of mercury emissions is coal-fired power plants. Many of these are “grandfathered” in and do not have to meet EPA standards. Whereas the EPA is cracking down on these emissions, residents have little recourse when a neighboring county or state sends smoke aloft. When mercury falls to earth and becomes the even more toxic methylmercury in bodies of water, that is when nature suffers. One thing we can all do as consumers is to encourage our power companies to produce energy from

renewable resources, such as solar and wind power. Check to see how your power company generates electricity, and try to support those companies that don’t burn coal.

Here are some of the sources for mercury in homes, offices, and factories: fluorescent and HID lamps, metal switches, thermocouples, mercury batteries, thermostats, manometers, PC boards, dental amalgams, mercury relays, telephone switches, thermometers, activated carbon, and mercury-contaminated soil.

New technology has eliminated the need for mercury thermometers. Be careful not to break one if you still have one. If you do break it, use a piece of cardboard to push the spilled mercury into a glass bottle. Take that bottle to an HHW collection. Certainly technology will enable manufacturers to replace mercury in other products we use. Check with your dentist about the fillings in your mouth. Although dental amalgams (80-percent mercury and 20-percent silver) have been used for 160 years, they have never been without controversy. Perhaps its time to replace them with one of the many alternatives now available. We may never be able to clean all our water of mercury, but we can stop adding more burden to the already over-taxed natural system.

There are many informative websites with further information on mercury, including the EPA website. We are fortunate to have county, state, and Federal governments aware of this environmental hazard. But residents can do their part right at home by making their homes mercury free.

-Jim Welch



Behind the Scenes

(Continued from page 1)

Past participants have commented:

- "Fascinating"
- "Very practical at the individual level while providing the big picture"
- "Speakers ... gave the material in an understandable manner, paced well."

For more information or to register, visit www.mcrcycles.org/bts or call Susanne Brunhart Wiggins at 240-777-6461.



Sign up Anytime, Anywhere

The Volunteer section of the Division of Solid Waste Services web site continues to improve. Now, you may view the Division's most up-to-date calendar of events, and even sign up to volunteer via an online form.

To access the calendar or the sign-up form, visit www.mcrcycles.org/volunteer, and click on "Calendar of Events."

Another recent addition to the site is the order form for Division literature, posters, and decals. Most of the print items are also available for viewing and download from this form. "Yard trim" decals have been the most commonly requested item so far. Hopefully, this will be a handy resource to which you may refer people who have questions or need information about our collection programs.

Are there other volunteer or solid waste-related features you'd like to have on the Division web site or via e-mail? Tell us about them via the web site's "Contact Us" button. Or, e-mail Susanne directly at susanne.wiggins@co.mo.md.us.

THANK YOU VOLUNTEERS

The Master Recycler/Composter Volunteer program appreciates the many hours of help it receives. November and December activities included these events:

In November, two HHW collections were held at the Transfer Station. Thanks to **Steve Albright, Bob Mabie, Joe Connor, and Shari Waddi**. Two weeks later, **Sarah and Caroline Levenson, Hubbard Hoyt, Richard Ablard, Jan Farhat, and Galen Marcino** assisted. The word is getting out about latex paint and alkaline batteries and our volunteers at HHW are an important part of spreading the word about these two non-toxic commodities.

Our volunteer meeting had a good turnout, and thanks to those volunteers who attended. Thanks to **Bob and Suzanne Browning, Bernadine and Joe Dadey, Georgene Ammon, Andres Zavala, Kayla Richmond, Felicia Case, Liz Bullock and Monique Kline**, and friend.

America Recycles Day was an outstanding success, due in part to the contributions of our volunteers. Thanks go to **Bob and Suzanne Browning, Edrie Ortega, Steve Albright, Dan Innamorta, Jeanne Cook, Eleanor Jones Lisa Bente, Jerrid Lipscomb, Bernadine and Joe Dadey, Georgene Ammon, Tony Cammarota, Dick Meyers, Steve Libbey, Madeline and Michael McGaughan, Howard Solomon, Donna Myers, Kristie Mulligan Welch, and James Mulligan Welch**.

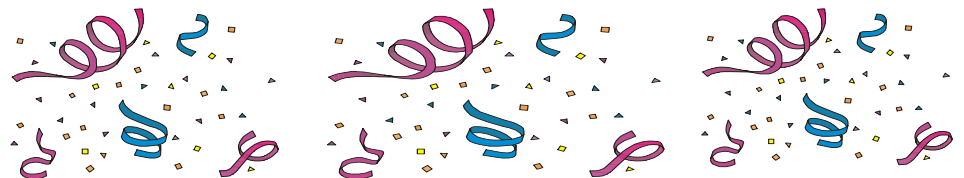
In December, the last HHW collection of the year was held at the Transfer Station. Thanks to **Denice Etheridge, Jamaal Williams, Bob Mabie, Joe Connor, and Genia Isbell**.

Two student interns have volunteered many hours of work to improve the DSWS award-winning website. Thanks to **Leah Cromwell and Raymond Chang**.

Thanks again to the Montgomery County Volunteer Center and its staff, team leaders and all the Weekend/Evening volunteers who have helped us at various events in 2000.

Thanks to **Rick Dimont** for his assistance on the mercury article. Thanks to **Dan Innamoratta** for sending us the Washington compoast barn renovation article.

And, as always, thanks to **Diane Reinke** for her skillful editing.



Volunteers Benefit from Services of County Credit Union

The services of the Montgomery County Employees Federal Credit Union (MCEFCU) are available not only to all County Employees and retirees, along with their family members, but also to anyone who volunteers in a County government office or agency. And, the advantage of banking with the Credit Union over your neighborhood bank branch is that there are no fees charged for any transactions at the Credit Union owned ATMs - that includes all deposits, withdrawals, transfers and balance inquiries. Nor are there any fees for transactions processed at the Credit Union.

Volunteers may not be aware that the Montgomery County Employees Federal Credit Union is a full-service facility, offering its members a full line of services, including vehicle loans, signature loans, line of credit, VISA, first mortgage loans and home equity loans.

Montgomery County Employees Federal Credit Union was chartered by and is insured by the federal agency called the National Credit Union Association (NCUA).

Forever Dung

At Mount Vernon, a Restored Barn and Pit Turn Stable Waste Into Black Gold for the Garden

By Adrian Higgins
Washington Post Staff Writer
Thursday, November 29, 2001; Page H06

Before the age of chemical fertilizers, gardeners had to make doo.

Well, the farm animals obliged first; then the gardener would take the manure and bedding straw, combine it with yard waste and kitchen scraps, and let the whole lot ferment into an earthy soil mix teeming with nutrients, microbes and earthworms.

For young plants, a delivery of this stuff was like manna from heaven.

Today's policymakers would call this a win-win situation: Property owners found a way to dispose of manure and other wastes to improve their depleted soil in the bargain. The only thing needed was a place to keep the muck while it transformed itself into compost.

George Washington — Father of His Country, First President, Commander of the Army — can now lay claim to a new title: Dungmeister. He brought the art of composting to new heights — or rather, to new depths — in the form of a manure repository on the south side of his house at Mount Vernon.

Newly re-created since last fall, the structure features a handsome shake-shingle roof protecting a pit in which the farm's stable waste is unloaded. Brick walls and a cobblestone floor prevent the manure from leaching into the surrounding soil. The roof, whose design, construction and materials would put many a McMansion to shame, keeps the dung dry.

The pit measures 11 feet wide, 30 feet long and 4 feet deep. The pitched roof above, framed in oak, is supported by rough locust posts. And the shingles, larger than any mass-produced roof shakes today, are custom-made from Washington's preferred roofing material, cypress wood.

Removable rails around the structure allow wagons to arrive from the nearby stable and laborers to shovel fresh manure and bedding into the pit, where it will rot for several weeks.

One recent day, Dennis Pogue, Mount Vernon's assistant director for preservation, looked down into the hole and imagined estate workers in Washington's time turning the decomposing mix while adding more green manure. "It's like a big mixing bowl put in the ground," said Pogue.

The original pit was traced by archaeologists, who spent three years examining the site. They found evidence of the post holes, "which we used in combination with documentary evidence and a drawing that was made at the same time by a friend of Washington," said Pogue. "We have combined all that to come up with a design for the building."

The original structure was built in 1787 using part of an existing garden wall. The replica, on the same spot, is deeper because the ground above it has built up over the years. It was designed by Pogue and two architectural historians — Orlando Rideout and Willie Graham — along with carpenters John O'Rourke and Gus Kiorpes. Kiorpes built the structure.

The dung pit's proximity to the house surprises some visitors, Pogue said, but we must remember that today the mansion is a manicured museum; in Washington's day, it was a working estate. The shed was sensibly sited, he noted, "right next to the stable."

Still, the whole structure is unusual, even for the period, and its sunken design might be linked to an effort to shield the house from its sights and smells. "We don't know of any building like this before this one," said Pogue. "It seems pretty unusual."

The roof, with its eaves of broad locust wood, prevents the pit from filling up with rainwater. Although compost mixture needs moisture for efficient rotting, the desired microbial action is impeded if the pile becomes saturated.

Since its dedication this summer, the shed has received token amounts of manure for demonstration purposes. The estate's gardeners run their own compost-making operation, in piles in a remote and private corner of the estate.

As in Washington's day, composting

is once more a mark of a savvy gardener — a vital ingredient for renewing and sustaining the soil. The Internet is full of advice on the practice, and though compost bins take many forms today, none comes close to Washington's stylish building.

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This Compost

"Behold this compost! Behold it well!

Perhaps every mite has once form'd part of a sick person - yet behold!

The grass of spring covers the prairies,

The bean bursts noiselessly through the mould in the garden.

The delicate spear of onion pierces upward,

The apple-buds cluster together on the apple-branches,

The resurrection of the wheat appears with pale visage out of its graves.

What chemistry!

That the winds are not really infectious,

That all is clean forever and forever,

That the cool drink from the well tastes so good,

That blackberries are so flavorful and juicy,

That the fruits of the apple-orchard and the orange-orchard, that melon,

Grapes, peaches, plums, will none of them poison me,

That when I recline on the grass I do not catch any disease.

Now I am terrified at the Earth, it is that calm and patient,

It grows such sweet things out of such corruption,

It turns harmless and stainless on its axis, with such endless succession of diseased corpses,

It distills such exquisite winds out of such infused fetor,

It gives such divine materials to men, and accepts such leavings from them at last"

-Walt Whitman (1819-1892)

Recycling References

MONTGOMERY COUNTY SOLID WASTE TRANSFER STATION

16101 Frederick Rd., Derwood 301-840-2370
(Route 355 & Shady Grove Rd.)

PUBLIC UNLOADING FACILITY

Monday - Friday, 7:30 a.m.-8:00 p.m.;
Saturday, 7:30 a.m.-5:00 p.m.; Sunday, 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Truck Hours, Monday - Saturday, 7:30 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

(Use Shady Grove Truck Entrance if you are dropping off materials in a truck.)

Accepts mixed glass bottles and jars, cans, and all plastic bottles with necks, all paper, all cardboards, antifreeze, waste oil, auto batteries, oil (5gallon limit per trip), tires (maximum of 4 per trip), and yard trim.

DON'T DUMP, DONATE!

At Public Unloading Facility

Accepts unused or used building materials in usable condition, such as: lumber, cinderblocks, wood, lights, flooring, plumbing fixtures, cabinets, toilets, tubs, doors - everything, including the kitchen sink.

CLOTHING & TEXTILE RECYCLING

At Public Unloading Facility

Accepts clothes, drapes, shoes, towels, sheets, belts, handbags, and material larger than 15" x 15" in area. Clothing & textiles must be clean, dry and in plastic bags.

SCRAP METAL/LARGE APPLIANCES RECYCLING

At Public Unloading Facility

Accepts refrigerators, freezers, hot water heaters, window air conditioning units, dehumidifiers, and all items that are mostly metal.

COMPUTERS

At Public Unloading Facility

Accepts monitors, P/C's, key boards, printers and most other computer equipment.

FREE MULCH

At Public Unloading Facility

Entrance off Route 355

Mulch produced from ground up brush is available at no charge. Load all you want yourself.

HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE

All sites operate from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Sunday, March 3, 2002

Shady Grove Transfer Station

Accepts insecticides, pesticides, fertilizers, paint thinners and solvents, pool chemicals, fuels, oil, photographic chemicals, oil-based paints, button and rechargeable batteries, fluorescent bulbs (limit of 12 bulbs).

FURNITURE

The Housing Opportunities Commission will pick up any reusable furniture item in good condition, such as tables, chairs, sofas, beds, mattresses, and box springs. To arrange for pick up, please call 301-495-0983.

SPECIAL DROP-OFFS

ROCKVILLE AREA

Montgomery Scrap Corporation 301-424-3000
15000 Southlawn Lane

Buys back aluminum cans, scrap metal, other metals, and accepts appliances, including refrigerators. (With freon removed)

Monday - Friday, 7:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Saturday, 7:00 a.m. to noon.

Georgetown Paper Stock of Rockville 301-762-6990
14818 Southlawn Lane

Monday - Friday, 6:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.

Buys back aluminum cans in 10 lb. loads, white office paper and computer paper in 100 lb. loads (no newspaper) and accepts corrugated cardboard, mixed paper and paperboard.

SILVER SPRING AREA

Southeast Recycling Corp. 301-589-4002
9001 Brookville Road

Accepts newspapers, magazines and catalogs, telephone books, corrugated cardboard and cereal boxes.

GAITHERSBURG AREA

The City of Gaithersburg provides mixed paper and corrugated cardboard recycling for its residents. Call the Public Works Department at 301-258-6370 for more information.

Office Paper Systems 301-948-6301

7650 Airpark Road

Drop-off bin available 24 hours.

Accepts all types of paper ("anything that tears").

WHITE OAK AREA

White Oak Boy Scout Troop 1086 301-622-1273

St. Stephen's Lutheran Church, 11612 New Hampshire Avenue

Fourth Saturday of the month, 9 a.m. - 1 p.m. *Accepts newspaper.*

COLLEGE PARK AREA

University of Maryland Recycling Center 301-314-8345

Lot 4A on Paint Branch Drive (near the intersection of Metzert Rd. and University Blvd.) Open 24 hours a day.

Accepts white, colored, office and computer paper, corrugated and glossy cardboard, magazines, glass, aluminum cans, newspaper, clothing, telephone books, scrap metal, textbooks, aluminum foil, catalogs, and steel cans.

DAMASCUS AREA

St. Paul's Catholic Church 301-253-2027

9240 Damascus Road, Open 24 hours

Accepts newspaper in bin behind church.

POOLESVILLE AREA

Highway Services Depot, Jerusalem Road 240-777-7623

Saturday, 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Sunday, 9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

Accepts used motor oil and antifreeze (up to 5 gallons of each).



Master Recycler/Composter Volunteer Program
16101 Frederick Road
Derwood, Maryland 20855

MONTGOMERY
COUNTY
RECYCLES



Return Service Requested

Calendar of Events

For more information about any of these opportunities, please contact the MR/C Volunteer Program at 301-840-2852, or e-mail us at Volunteers@MCRecycles.org or WelchJ@co.mo.md.us - Visit www.MCRecycles.org/volunteer for the most current calendar.

HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE COLLECTIONS

This activity is approved for Student Service Learning. Collection volunteers direct traffic and hand out literature. Two shifts: 9:30 a.m. to Noon and 11:45 a.m. to 2:15 p.m. Each site operates from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. See dates on page 7. This is a wonderful group activity. Please help us spread the word.

FAIRS AND FESTIVALS

Saturday, January 19, Sunday, January 20. Computer collection at MarketPro Show and Sale. Montgomery County Fairgrounds, Gaithersburg. 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.